

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently amended) A method for preserving a preferred presentation layout of a web page authored on a first computing system and rendered on one or more second computing systems, wherein, said layout is susceptible to influence by browser configuration on said one or more second computing systems, said method, comprising:

obtaining a layout of display elements on a web page;

determining, using a first computing system, a primary split direction for the web page, preserving a preferred layout of said web page when rendered by one or more second computing systems, wherein said preferred layout is susceptible to influence by browser configuration on said one or more second computing systems; and

determining splits of the web page, in the primary split direction[.]; and

generating, after receiving a request from a user, an internal representation of the web page where the layout of the web page is primarily by rows or primarily by columns in accordance with the splits.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, where the step of determining the primary split direction includes the step of receiving input from a user indicating the primary split direction.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including the step of enabling the size of selected text of the web page to be locked.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying the web page on a display screen, including indications of the locations in of the determined splits.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 [[5]], wherein the request received from a user is generating step is performed after receiving a publish request from a user.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 [[5]], wherein the request received from a user is generating step is performed after receiving a preview request from a user.

10. (Currently amended) A system comprising:  
means for obtaining a layout of display elements on a web page;  
means for determining a primary split direction for the web page, said primary split direction preserving a preferred layout of said web page when rendered by web browsers hosted by at least one other system, wherein said preferred layout is susceptible to influence by browser configuration on said web browsers hosted by at least one other system; and  
means for determining splits for the web page, in the primary split direction; and  
means for generating, after receiving a request from a user, an internal representation of the web page where the layout of the web page is primarily by rows or primarily by columns in accordance with the primary split direction.

11. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing program code for causing a computer to perform the steps of:  
obtaining a layout of display elements on a web page;  
determining a primary split direction for the web page, preserving a preferred layout of said web page when rendered by web browsers hosted by at least one other computer, wherein said preferred layout is susceptible to influence by browser configuration on said web browsers hosted by at least one other computer; and  
determining splits in the web page, in the primary split direction, and  
generating, after receiving a request from a user, an internal representation of the web page where the layout of the web page is primarily by rows or primarily by columns in accordance with the primary split direction.

12. (Currently amended) A system for preserving a preferred presentation layout of a web page authored on a first computing system and rendered on one or more second computing systems, wherein, said layout is susceptible to influence by browser configuration on said one or more second computing systems, said system comprising:

a device for obtaining a layout of display elements on a web page, and a primary split direction for the web page preserving a preferred layout of said web page when rendered by various web browsers; and

memory storing software code for determining splits in the web page, in the primary split direction and generating, after receiving a request from a user, an internal representation of the web page where the layout of the web page is primarily by rows or primarily by columns in accordance with the primary split direction.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the primary split direction is set by the user.

14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the primary split direction is a default setting.

15. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the primary split direction is either vertical or horizontal.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein, for a vertical primary split direction, the software code generates needed splits in a columnar orientation.

17. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein, for a horizontal primary split direction, the software code generates needed splits in a row orientation.

18. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the software code displays the web page indicating the splits.

19. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the layout includes frames and wherein the software code determines splits for each frame independently.

20. (New) A method for preserving a preferred presentation layout of a web page authored on a first computing system and rendered on one or more second computing systems, wherein, said layout is susceptible to influence by browser configuration on said one or more second computing systems, said method, comprising:

obtaining a layout of display elements on a web page;  
determining, using a first computing system, a primary split direction for the web page, preserving a preferred layout of said web page when rendered by one or more second computing systems, wherein said preferred layout is susceptible to influence by browser configuration on said one or more second computing systems;  
determining splits of the web page, in the primary split direction; and  
enabling the size of selected text of the web page to be locked.

21. (New) The method of claim 20, where the step of determining the primary split direction includes the step of receiving input from a user indicating the primary split direction.

22. (New) The method of claim 20, further comprising displaying the web page on a display screen, including indications of the locations in of the determined splits.

23. (New) The method of claim 20, further comprising generating an internal representation of the web page where the layout of the web page is primarily by rows or primarily by columns in accordance with the splits.

24. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the generating step is performed after receiving a publish request from a user.

25. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the generating step is performed after receiving a preview request from a user.